



## CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE COST ESTIMATE

October 6, 2003

### **H.R. 1598**

### **Irvine Basin Surface and Groundwater Improvement Act of 2003**

*As ordered reported by the House Committee on Resources on September 24, 2003*

#### **SUMMARY**

H.R. 1598 would authorize the Secretary of the Interior, in cooperation with the Irvine Ranch Water District, to participate in the design, planning, and construction of projects to treat surface water, reclaim groundwater, and dispose of brine in the San Diego Creek Watershed. The bill would limit the federal share of all project costs to 25 percent.

Assuming appropriation of the necessary amounts, CBO estimates that implementing H.R. 1598 would cost \$19 million over the 2004-2008 period. Enacting H.R. 1598 would not affect direct spending or revenues.

H.R. 1598 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act (UMRA). Enacting this legislation would benefit local governments, particularly the Irvine Ranch Water District and nearby city and county governments. These governments would incur some costs to match the federal funds authorized by this act, but these costs would be voluntary.

#### **ESTIMATED COST TO THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT**

The estimated budgetary impact of H.R. 1598 is shown in the following table. The costs of this legislation fall within budget function 300 (natural resources and environment).

	By Fiscal Year, in Millions of Dollars				
	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
<b>CHANGES IN SPENDING SUBJECT TO APPROPRIATION</b>					
Estimated Authorization Level	5	5	5	4	0
Estimated Outlays	1	3	7	5	3

**BASIS OF ESTIMATE**

For this estimate, CBO assumes that H.R. 1598 will be enacted early in fiscal year 2004 and that the necessary amounts will be appropriated in each fiscal year. Based on information about the plans for this project from the Bureau of Reclamation, CBO estimates that implementing the bill would cost \$18 million over the next five years.

**INTERGOVERNMENTAL AND PRIVATE-SECTOR IMPACT**

H.R. 1598 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in UMRA. Enacting this legislation would benefit local governments, particularly the Irvine Ranch Water District and nearby city and county governments. These governments would incur some costs to match the federal funds authorized by this act, but these costs would be voluntary.

**ESTIMATE PREPARED BY:**

Federal Costs: Rachel Milberg  
 Impact on State, Local, and Tribal Governments: Marjorie Miller  
 Impact on the Private Sector: Selena Caldera

**ESTIMATE APPROVED BY:**

Peter H. Fontaine  
 Deputy Assistant Director for Budget Analysis